



PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)


Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	09/720,079-Conf. #6806		
		Filing Date	December 20, 2000		
		First Named Inventor	Shigeyuki KAWAI		
		Art Unit	3621		
Examiner Name	B. B. Bayat				
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SON-1846

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
BB	AA*	US-5,010,238	04-23-1991	KADONO et al.	
	AB*	US-5,850,442	12-15-1998	Sead Mufic	
	AC*	US-5,875,437	02-23-1999	Atkins	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ³
		Country Code ³ -Number ³ -Kind Code ³ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
	BA	WO-WO 96/33476	10-24-1996	Citibank, N.A.		
	BB	GB-2 310 944-A	09-10-1997	Hitachi, Ltd.		

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an asterisk () next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. ² Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³ See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁴ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁷ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		T ²
BB	CA	Supplementary European Search Report, May 17, 2006		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	10/5/06
-----------------------	--	--------------------	---------